



00862.023281

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
SHUICHI KUMADA) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
Application No.: 10/694,837) TC/Art Unit: NYA
Filed: October 29, 2003)
For: IMAGE PROCESSING)
APPARATUS AND METHOD) December 15, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents also are enclosed.

An explanation of relevance for JP 7-222009 is given in the attached English abstract and on page 1 of the specification. Also, U.S. Patent No. 6,044,713 (copy enclosed) is in the same patent family as JP 7-222009.

It is respectfully requested that the enclosed information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(Use several sheets if necessary)APPLICANT
SHICHI KUMADAFILING DATE
October 29, 2003GROUP
NYA

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6,044,173	03/28/00	Kumada	382	167	
	6,430,311 B1	08/06/02	Kumada	382	162	
	6,563,944 B1	05/13/03	Kumada	382	162	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
	7-222009	08/18/95	Japan			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1